

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: 10/587,778  
Applicants: Hajime Maekawa et al.  
Filed: July 28, 2006  
Title: COMMUNICATION SYSTEM, INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM,  
INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS, TUNNEL MANAGEMENT  
APPARATUS, INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD, TUNNEL  
MANAGEMENT METHOD, AND PROGRAM  
TC/A.U.: 2442  
Examiner: Esther Benoit

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b form submitted herewith. A copy of each reference listed on the PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b, other than U.S. patents, is enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following references are not in the English language:

- 1) JP 2000-059871
- 2) JP 2001-053779
- 3) CN 1269033
- 4) WO 2005/074207
- 5) JP 11-232193

- 6) JP 2000-285058
- 7) JP 10-271117
- 8) JP 10-191463
- 9) JP 2003-046530
- 10) EP 0 932 275
- 11) EP 1 049 309
- 12) JP 2001-189740
- 13) JP 2003-134172
- 14) JP 2002-149970
- 15) JP 2001-356973
- 16) JP 2002-141953
- 17) JP 2001-326695
- 18) JP 3445986
- 19) JP 2004-120547
- 20) JP 2000-347975

References 10) and 11) are in English.

References 5)-8) and 20) include an English translation thereof attached to the copy of the reference submitted herewith.

References 1)-2), 4)-9) and 12)-18) an English abstract thereof attached to the copy of the reference submitted herewith. Reference 19) is only an English abstract.

References 1)-20) were cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. MPEP Section 609.04(a)III, second paragraph.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application or before mailing of the first Official Action on the merits. No first Official Action on the merits has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. No fee or statement is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/nm

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b  
(31) References

Dated: March 18, 2010

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